

Claims

- [c1] 1. A switch assembly, comprising:
- a switch having an actuator attached to a base, the actuator having first and second switch positions;
 - a housing defining an opening therein, the base being seated in the opening;
 - a control member received by the housing;
 - a pivot member extending from the control member and received by a socket defined in the housing such that the control member is movable on the pivot member between first and second controller positions; and
 - a contact member extending from the control member such that in response to movement of the control member between the first and second controller positions, the contact member moves the actuator between the first and second switch positions.
- [c2] 2. The switch assembly of claim 1, wherein:
- the control member defines first and second shoulders on either side of the pivot member;
 - the housing defines corresponding first and second ledges on either side of the socket; and

the first shoulder and the first ledge contact each other when the control member is in the first position.

[c3] 3. The switch assembly of claim 2, wherein the second shoulder and the second ledge contact each other when the control member is in the second position.

[c4] 4. The switch assembly of claim 1, wherein the pivot member comprises first and second pivot members.

[c5] 5. The switch controller assembly of claim 1, further comprising:
a flexible tab extending from the control member;
a projection extending from the housing;
wherein the flexible tab is situated on one side of the projection when the control member is in the first position, and when the control member is moved to the second position, the flexible tab slides over the projection and situates on the other side of the projection to positively locate the control member.

[c6] 6. The switch assembly of claim 5, wherein the flexible tab is integrally formed with the control member.

[c7] 7. The switch controller assembly of claim 1, wherein the switch defines a locking tab extending therefrom, the locking tab interacting with the opening in the housing

to lock the switch into the housing.

- [c8] 8. The switch controller assembly of claim 1, wherein:
the switch comprises a toggle switch;
the actuator comprises a stem extending from a base of the toggle switch; and
the contact member comprises a rigid sleeve receiving the stem.
- [c9] 9. The switch controller assembly of claim 1, wherein:
the switch comprises a rocker switch;
the actuator comprises a rocker having first and second actuation surfaces; and
the contact member comprises a rigid member contacting the first actuation surface when the control member is in the first controller position and contacting the second actuation surface when the control member is in the second controller position.
- [c10] 10. The switch controller assembly of claim 1, wherein:
the switch comprises a push button switch;
the actuator comprises first and second push buttons extending from a base of the push button switch;
and
the contact member comprises a rigid member contacting the first push button when the control member is in the first controller position and contacting

the second push button when the control member is in the second controller position.

- [c11] 11. The switch controller assembly of claim 1, wherein the pivot member includes a locking tab extending therefrom received by a corresponding locking opening in the housing to lock the control member to the housing.
- [c12] 12. A switch controller assembly, comprising:
a control member having a contact member extending therefrom for actuating a switch actuator;
a pivot member extending from the control member;
a locking tab extending from the pivot member;
a housing receiving the locking tab of the pivot member to lock the control member into the housing such that the control member is movable on the pivot member between first and second positions.
- [c13] 13. The switch controller assembly of claim 12, wherein the pivot member comprises first and second pivot members.
- [c14] 14. The switch controller assembly of claim 12, wherein the housing defines an opening therein for receiving the locking tab.
- [c15] 15. The switch controller assembly of claim 12, further

comprising:

a flexible tab extending from the control member;
a projection extending from the housing;
wherein the flexible tab is situated on one side of the projection when the control member is in the first position, and when the control member is moved to the second position, the flexible tab slides over the projection and situates on the other side of the projection to positively locate the control member.

[c16] 16. The switch controller assembly of claim 12, wherein the contact member comprises a rigid sleeve for receiving a stem of a toggle switch.

[c17] 17. A method of actuating a switch, comprising:
situating a switch in a housing, the switch having an actuator with first and second switch positions;
placing a control member having first and second ends into the housing, wherein placing the control member includes:
seating a pivot member extending from a control member into a socket defined in the housing such that the control member is movable on the pivot member between first and second controller positions; and
inserting a locking tab extending from the pivot member into a corresponding locking opening in the

housing to lock the control member to the housing;
and
depressing the second end of the control member to
pivot the control member on the pivot member such
that a contact member extending from the control
member moves the actuator from the first switch po-
sition to the second switch position.

[c18] 18. The method of claim 17, further comprising de-
pressing the first end of the control member to move the
actuator from the second switch position to the first
switch position.

[c19] 19. The method of claim 17, wherein depressing the
second end of the control member to move the actuator
from the second switch position to the first switch posi-
tion includes contacting a first shoulder adjacent the
pivot member with a first ledge adjacent the socket.

[c20] 20. The method of claim 17, wherein the actuator com-
prises a stem extending from a base of the switch, and
wherein placing the control member includes sliding the
stem into a sleeve extending from the control member.